

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 13 and 29 in accordance with the following:

1-12. (CANCELLED)

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for operating a mobile radio system with a first group of adjacent radio cells and a second group of adjacent radio cells, the first and the second groups of radio cells belonging to different mobile radio networks, the first and second groups of radio cells being overlaid on each other, comprising:

measuring signal quality from a mobile station, which is operating at a current position in a first radio cell of the first group, to other radio cells of the first group that are adjacent to the first cell;

determining which of other radio cells of the first group has the best signal quality for the current position of the mobile station;

identifying a sub-group of radio cells from the second group belonging to a different mobile radio network than the first group, based on which radio cell of the first group has the best signal quality; and

measuring signal quality from the mobile station to the sub-group of radio cells from the second group but not to other radio cells of the second group that are not included in the sub-group.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 13, wherein the radio cells of the second group are smaller than the radio cells of the first group.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 13, wherein the radio cells of the first group are operated in a different frequency range from radio cells of the second group.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 13, wherein

if the current position of the mobile station changes, a new sub-group of radio cells from the second group is identified before measuring signal quality to radio cells of the second group.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 13, wherein the sub-group of radio cells from the second group is identified based on sub-group information describing which radio cells of the second group have a close relationship with the radio cell of the first group which has the best signal quality, and the base station of the first radio cell transmits the sub-group information to the mobile station.

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 17, wherein the sub-group information specifies different sub-groups of radio cells from the second group for different radio cells of the first group, the mobile station determines its actual position within the first radio cell and determines which of the other radio cells of the first group has the best signal quality for the actual position, and the mobile station identifies the sub-group from the determined position and the sub-group information.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 17, wherein when the mobile station moves and there is a change in the radio cell of the first group having the best signal quality, new sub-group information is generated and transmitted from the base station of the first radio cell to the mobile station.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 17, wherein the base station of the first radio cell uses a directional antenna to transmit the sub-group information.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 13, wherein each radio cell is served by a base station, and signal quality measurements are taken from the mobile station to the base stations serving the respective radio cells.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 21, wherein for a

least a portion of the radio cells, a single base station served two or more radio cells.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 14, wherein the radio cells of the first group are operated in a different frequency range from radio cells of the second group.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 23, wherein if the current position of the mobile station changes, a new sub-group of radio cells from the second group is identified before measuring signal quality to radio cells of the second group.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 24, wherein the sub-group of radio cells from the second group is identified based on sub-group information describing which radio cells of the second group have a close relationship with the radio cell of the first group which has the best signal quality, and the base station of the first radio cell transmits the sub-group information to the mobile station.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 25, wherein the sub-group information specifies different sub-groups of radio cells from the second group for different radio cells of the first group, the mobile station determines its actual position within the first radio cell and determines which of the other radio cells of the first group has the best signal quality for the actual position, and the mobile station identifies the sub-group from the determined position and the sub-group information.

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 25, wherein when the mobile station moves and there is a change in the radio cell of the first group having the best signal quality, new sub-group information is generated and transmitted from the base station of the first radio cell to the mobile station.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to Claim 25, wherein the base station of the first radio cell uses a directional antenna to transmit the sub-group information.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A device to determine a sub-group of adjacent radio cells in a mobile radio system with a first group of adjacent radio cells and a second group of adjacent radio cells, the first and the second groups of radio cells belonging to different mobile radio networks, the first and second groups of radio cells being overlaid on each other, comprising:

a first measurement unit to measure signal quality from a mobile station, which is operating at a current position in a first radio cell of the first group, to other radio cells of the first group that are adjacent to the first cell;

a determination unit to determine which of other radio cells of the first group has the best signal quality for the current position of the mobile station;

an identification unit to identify a sub-group of radio cells from the second group belonging to a different mobile radio network than the first group, based on which radio cell of the first group has the best signal quality; and

a second measurement unit to measure signal quality from the mobile station to the sub-group of radio cells from the second group but not to other radio cells of the second group that are not included in the sub-group.